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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 25, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable THOMAS E. PETRI to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 31, 2006, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, out of Your infinite love, You call each of us by name. You tie us into a set of relationships and You position us in a particular place and time that we may accomplish Your holy will.

Since this democracy is government by the people, it is for the American people that this House of Representatives gathers today. Whether duly elected or employed by the taxpayers, all who work here, Lord, are called by You and accountable both to You and to the American people.

As ordinary individuals, You equip us to do our job well. We look to You for strength and guidance in all judgments. May all that we do be sanctified by Your presence and dignified by dedication to the common good of the American people both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

TORTURE DEFINED

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Merriam-Webster defines torture as "the infliction of intense pain, as from burning, crushing, or wounding." I would challenge those who oppose America's strenuous interrogation of known terrorists to explain how sleep deprivation and forced standing fits this description.

The Islamofascist movement seeks the destruction of modern civilization. To accomplish this twisted goal, no means are off limits. Rules of war and international treaties do not apply. These barbarians target civilians, they eagerly blow up innocent children, they behead their captives.

Our men and women in uniform are fighting to protect our families and our homeland from these mass murderers. It is important that America maintain its high moral standing in the global community. An honest debate about the treatment of terrorist detainees is certainly in order. Still, we cannot forget that our freedoms are under siege. We must employ all appropriate means to eradicate terrorism and protect American families in the global war on terror.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

SITUATION IN IRAQ

(Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, the situation in Iraq is more deadly than ever before. During July and August, 6,600 Iraqi civilians were murdered by death squads, militias, and insurgents.

Today, it was reported that there are 23 armed and violent militias in Iraq, some with direct connections to the Iraqi Government officials and ministries. And we now know our own U.S.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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